United Nations A/C.2/53/L.25

General Assembly

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Fifty-third session
Second Committee
Agenda item 94 (a)
Environment and sustainable development: implementation of and follow-up to the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, including the outcome of the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly for the purpose of an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21

Indonesia*: draft resolution

Implementation of commitments undertaken at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Recalling the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, which was held at Rio de Janeiro from 3 to 14 June 1992, and the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly for the purpose of an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21, which was held in New York from 23 to 27 June 1997,

Reaffirming that Agenda 21[1] remains the fundamental programme of action for achieving sustainable development, and that the Programme of Action for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[2] adopted at the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly, will enhance the full implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,

Recognizing that the Programme of Action for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 includes a statement of commitment to Agenda 21 and the goals of sustainable development, an assessment of progress made since the United Nations Conference on

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and Corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

[2] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Nineteenth Special Session, Supplement No. 2* (A/S-19/33), chap. III, annex.

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Environment and Development in all main areas of Agenda 21 and other outcomes of the Conference, a broad range of decisions and recommendations aimed at fostering progress in various sectoral and cross-sectoral areas of Agenda 21, in particular in its means of implementation, decisions aimed at strengthening global and regional institutional arrangements for achieving sustainable development, and recommendations on the future methods of work of the Commission on Sustainable Development and the programme of work of the Commission for the period 1998–2002,

Also recognizing that a mutually supportive balance between international and national efforts is needed in the pursuit of sustainable development, and that the gap between developed and developing countries points to the continued need for a dynamic and enabling international economic environment supportive of international cooperation, particularly in the fields of finance, technology transfer, debt and trade, if the momentum for global progress towards sustainable development is to be maintained and increased,

Noting with concern that the assessment and review of progress made by the General Assembly at its nineteenth special session concluded that although some progress had been made the overall trends with respect to the global environment had not improved,

Also noting the convening of the first Global Environment Facility Assembly at New Delhi from 1 to 3 April 1998 and the conclusion of the negotiations on the second replenishment of the Facility,

Further noting that the next comprehensive review of the implementation of Agenda 21 is scheduled to be carried out in 2002 by the General Assembly,

1. *Stresses* the need to accelerate the full implementation of Agenda 21[1] and the Programme of Action for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21;[2]

2. *Recognizes* that the Commission on Sustainable Development, within its mandate as specified in General Assembly resolution 47/191, will continue to provide the central forum for reviewing progress and urging further implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme of Action for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and other commitments made at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, for conducting a high-level policy debate aimed at consensus-building on sustainable development, and for catalyzing action and long-term commitment on sustainable development at all levels;

3. *Calls upon* the Commission on Sustainable Development to continue to undertake these tasks in complementing and providing linkages to the work of other United Nations organs, organizations and bodies acting in the field of sustainable development, to play its role in assessing the challenges of globalization as they relate to sustainable development, and to perform its functions in coordination with other subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council and related organizations and institutions, including making recommendations, within its mandate, to the Council, bearing in mind the related outcomes of recent United Nations conferences;

4. *Emphasizes* that the achievement of more substantive results by the next review of the implementation of Agenda 21 in 2002 will require concerted efforts at all levels, and calls upon the developed countries to fulfil their commitments with respect to financial resources and the transfer of environmentally sound technologies and capacity-building;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in close collaboration with all relevant parts of the United Nations system, including the Global Environment Facility, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Development Programme and the regional commissions, to prepare and submit an annual analytical report, beginning at the fifty-fourth session of the General

Assembly, on the measures undertaken by these bodies to accelerate implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme of Action for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, including identification of constraints and recommendations on how to address these constraints;

6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to include in that annual report the outcome of relevant deliberations in the Commission on Sustainable Development under its multi-year programme of work with a view to facilitating preparations for the forthcoming review of the implementation of Agenda 21 in 2002;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fourth session, under the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development", a sub-item entitled "Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme of Action for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21".

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General Assembly

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Fifty-third session
Second Committee
Agenda item 91 (a)
Macroeconomic policy questions: trade and development

Indonesia*: draft resolution

International trade and development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 50/95 and 50/98 of 20 December 1995, 51/167 of 16 December 1996 and 52/182 of 18 December 1997, as well as relevant international agreements concerning trade, economic growth, development and interrelated issues,

Welcoming the ministerial communiqué on market access, including developments since the Uruguay Round, implications, opportunities and challenges, in particular for the developing countries and the least developed among them, in the context of globalization and liberalization, adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 8 July 1998,[1]

Reaffirming the outcome of the ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held at Midrand, South Africa,[2] which provides an important framework for promoting a partnership for growth and development,

Taking note of the report of the Trade and Development Board on its forty-fifth session,[3]

Noting also that the second Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization was held at Geneva from 18 to 20 May 1998,

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/53/3), chap. IV, para. 5.

[2] *Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Ninth Session, Midrand, Republic of South Africa, 27 April–11 May 1996, Report and Annexes* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.II.D.4), part one, sect. A.

[3] A/53/15 (Part IV).

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1. *Recognizes* the importance of the expansion of international trade as an engine of growth and development and, in this context, the need for expeditious and complete integration of developing countries into the international trading system in full cognizance of the opportunities and challenges of globalization and liberalization and taking into account the special needs of developing countries;

2. *Renews* the commitment to uphold and strengthen an open, rule-based, equitable, secure, non-discriminatory, transparent and predictable multilateral trade system, which contributes to the economic and social advancement of all countries and peoples by promoting the liberalization and expansion of trade, employment and stability and by providing a framework for the conduct of international trade relations; in this context, deplores any attempt to bypass or undermine multilaterally agreed procedures on the conduct of international trade by resorting to unilateral actions over and above the multilateral trade rules and regulations, including those agreed in the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations;

3. *Reaffirms* the role of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as the focal point within the United Nations for the integrated treatment of development and related issues in areas of trade, finance, technology, investment and sustainable development;

4. *Requests* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue, on the basis of the outcome of its ninth session, to identify and analyse the implications for development of issues relevant to investment, taking into account the interests of developing countries and bearing in mind the work undertaken by other organizations;

5. *Notes with appreciation* the initiative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to invite the executive secretaries of the United Nations regional commissions to participate in the discussions of the Trade and Development Board and encourages the continuation of such a practice in the future;

6. *Reiterates* the importance of continued trade liberalization in developed and developing countries, particularly in sectors of export interest to developing countries, through, *inter alia*:

(a) Substantial reductions in all tariffs, the rolling back of tariff peaks and the removal of tariff escalation, which still affect a notable range of products and sectors;

(b) The elimination of trade-distorting policies, protectionist practices and non-tariff barriers in international trade relations;

(c) Subjecting resort to anti-dumping duties, countervailing duties, phyto-sanitary and technical standards to increased multilateral surveillance, so that they respect and are consistent with multilateral rules and obligations and are not used for protectionist purposes;

(d) The improvement and renewal, by preference-giving countries, of their generalized system of preference schemes with the objective of integrating developing countries, especially the least developed countries, into the international trading system and of finding ways and means to ensure more effective utilization of generalized system of preference schemes; in this context, notes the concern among the beneficiaries that the enlargement of the scope of the generalized system of preferences, by linking eligibility to non-trade considerations, may detract value from its original principles, namely, non-discrimination, universality, burden-sharing and non-reciprocity;

7. *Stresses* that it is an ethical imperative for the international community to arrest and reverse the marginalization of the least developed countries through the promotion of their expeditious integration into the world economy by taking the fullest possible advantage

of trading opportunities arising from globalization and liberalization and recognizes that full implementation of the Programme for Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s requires, as requested in the ministerial communiqué on market access adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 8 July 1998,[1] further progress towards duty-free imports from least developed countries, consolidation of international assistance to complement their capacity-building efforts and the provision of increased technical assistance to help strengthen their supply capacity;

8. *Stresses also* the urgent need to facilitate the integration of the African countries into the world economy and, in this context, welcomes the action-oriented agenda for the development of Africa contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,[4] and endorses the call contained in the ministerial communiqué for continued efforts to enhance market access for products of interest to African economies and for support for their efforts at diversification and building of supply capacity and, in this context, requests the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue its contribution to the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s,[5] taking into account the agreed conclusions of the Trade and Development Board at its forty-fifth session;[6]

9. *Further stresses* the need to give special attention, within the context of international cooperation on trade and development issues, to the implementation of the many international development commitments geared to meeting the special development needs and problems of small island developing States and of landlocked developing States, and to recognize that developing countries that provide transit services need adequate support in maintaining and improving their transit infrastructure;

10. *Reiterates* the importance of the effective application by all members of the World Trade Organization of all provisions of the Final Act Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations,[7] taking into account the specific interests of developing countries and the need for the effective implementation of the special provisions in the multilateral trade agreements and related ministerial decisions in favour of developing countries and, in this respect, reiterates the need for the full implementation of special and preferential treatment for developing countries, and urges Governments and concerned international organizations to apply effectively the Ministerial Decision on Measures Concerning the Possible Negative Effects of the Reform Programme on Least Developed and Net Food-importing Developing Countries;[7]

11. *Further reiterates* the importance of maintaining the momentum towards increased trade liberalization, particularly as regards products of interest to developing countries, and of giving it attention in the work leading up to the third Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization; further liberalization should be sufficiently broad-based to respond to the range of interests and concerns of all members of the organization, particularly the developing countries, within the framework of the organization; in this regard, invites the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to provide analytical support and technical assistance to developing countries

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[4] A/52/871-S/1998/318.

[5] Resolution 46/151, annex II.

[6] A/53/15 (Part IV), chap. I, sect. E, agreed conclusions 454 (XLV).

[7] See *Legal Instruments Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, done at Marrakesh on 15 April 1994* (GATT secretariat publication, Sales No. GATT/1994-7).

for their effective participation in multilateral trade negotiations and for formulating a positive agenda for future trade negotiations;

12. *Welcomes* the launching of the substantive preparatory process for the tenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to be held at Bangkok in 2000, by the Trade and Development Board at its forty-fifth session, with a view to the finalization of the agenda of the Conference by the Board at its nineteenth executive session, in December 1998, and considers that the tenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development will provide an important opportunity for the United Nations system and the international community to make a collective reflection on development;

13. *Emphasizes* the importance of the strengthening of, and the attainment of greater universality by, the international trading system and of accelerating the process directed towards accession to the World Trade Organization of developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and emphasizes the necessity for Governments members of the World Trade Organization and relevant international organizations to assist non-members of the World Trade Organization so as to facilitate their efforts with respect to accession, in an expeditious and transparent manner on the basis of World Trade Organization rights and obligations, and for the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the World Trade Organization to provide technical assistance, within their mandate, thereby contributing to the rapid and full integration of those countries into the multilateral trading system;

14. *Stresses* the need for improved and coordinated measures to address the effects of the financial crisis on the international trading system and the development prospects of developing countries, emphasizing that keeping the trading system open and maintaining continued growth in world trade are key elements in overcoming the crisis, and rejects the use of any protectionist measures; at a broader level, there is a need for greater coherence between the development objectives agreed to by the international community and the functioning of the international trading and financial system and in this context, calls for close cooperation between organizations of the United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization;

15. *Recognizes* the importance of open regional economic integration in the creation of new opportunities for expanding trade and investment, stresses the importance of those initiatives being in conformity with World Trade Organization rules, where applicable, and, bearing in mind the primacy of the multilateral trading system, affirms that regional trade agreements should be outward-oriented and supportive of the multilateral trading system;

16. *Reiterates* that, in line with Agenda 21[8] and the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[9] Governments should have as their objective to ensure that trade and environmental policies are mutually supportive so as to achieve sustainable development; in so doing, their environmental policies and measures with a potential trade impact should not be used for protectionist purposes, and in this context encourages the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue its work on trade, environment and development;

17. *Strongly underlines* the need to provide technical assistance to developing countries for capacity-building in trade negotiations and for taking the fullest possible

[8] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8), resolution 1, annex II.

[9] Ibid., annex I.

advantage of the dispute settlement mechanism and in this regard emphasizes the importance of strengthening the capacity of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in carrying out analytical and technical cooperation activities in the areas of trade, finance, technology, investment and sustainable development, and welcomes its collaboration with relevant organizations of the United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions, the World Trade Organization, the Bank for International Settlements and other relevant organizations in undertaking its work;

18. *Emphasizes* that the dispute settlement mechanism of the World Trade Organization is a key element with regard to the integrity and credibility of the multilateral trading system and the full realization of the benefits anticipated from the conclusion of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations and in this context underlines the need for the World Trade Organization to take into account the potential consequences of its rulings on developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in collaboration with the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution, developments in the multilateral trading system and the implementation of the ministerial communiqué on market access adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 8 July 1998.

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Fifty-third session
Second Committee
Agenda item 98
Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006)

Indonesia*: Draft resolution

Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 50/107 of 20 December 1995 and 52/193 and 52/194 of 18 December 1997 related to the observance of the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty, to the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty and to the role of microcredit in the eradication of poverty, and all its other relevant resolutions relating to international cooperation for the eradication of poverty in developing countries,

Recalling also the declarations and programmes of action of the United Nations major conferences and summits in the 1990s as they relate to poverty eradication,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General[1] and the report of the United Nations Development Programme on overcoming human poverty,

Expressing its concern that the number of people living in poverty is still increasing, especially in developing countries, and that a large majority of them are women and children,

Recognizing that in the process of globalization, the marginalization of many developing countries and of disadvantaged groups of people have created constraints to the efforts to eradicate poverty,

Expressing also its concern that financial and economic turmoil has aggravated the existing poverty and put a large number of people back to conditions of poverty in developing countries,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.
[1] A/53/329

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Noting the decisions, measures and activities undertaken to eradicate poverty by countries and by organizations, agencies, funds, programmes and bodies of the United Nations system, including the World Bank, as well as by all sectors of societies within the framework of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty,

1. *Reiterates* that the main objective of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty is to achieve the goal of eradicating absolute poverty and reducing overall poverty substantially in the world through decisive national actions and international cooperation;

2. *Calls for* strengthened efforts at all levels to implement fully and effectively the relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations and all agreements and commitments agreed upon at the United Nations major conferences and summits organized since 1990 as they relate to poverty eradication, with a view to achieving the objectives of the Decade as early as possible;

3. *Stresses* the importance of tackling the root causes of poverty and the necessity to meet the basic needs of all, and, in this context, emphasizes the fundamental role of economic growth with equity in the eradication of poverty;

4. *Recognizes* that the process of globalization brings with it new challenges, particularly for the developing countries and the least developed among them in their efforts to eradicate poverty;

5. *Calls for* concrete and concerted actions by the international community to create an enabling economic environment to assist developing countries to combat the negative impacts of globalization and marginalization and to reactivate the development process;

6. *Welcomes* the formulation and implementation of national plans and strategies for poverty eradication, including setting time-bound goals and targets for the substantial reduction of overall poverty and the eradication of absolute poverty, based on specific national development strategies, and encourages their continuous implementation, as well as the exchanges of experiences gained in this regard;

7. *Urges* the developed countries that have not yet done so to achieve as soon as possible the agreed target of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product for overall official development assistance and, within that target, to earmark 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of the gross national product for the least developed countries;

8. *Calls upon* the international community, including multilateral financial institutions, to implement fully and effectively all initiatives taken regarding debt relief for developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, and thus support their efforts to eradicate poverty;

9. *Recognizes* the role of microcredit as an essential anti-poverty tool, resulting in the generation of productive self-employment and empowerment, especially of women, by providing access to small amounts of capital, encourages Governments to adopt policies that support the development of microcredit institutions and their capacities and calls on the international community, in particular the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system as well as the World Bank and other international financial institutions to support and incorporate, as appropriate, microcredit and related services in their programmes for the eradication of poverty;

10. *Welcomes* the initiative taken by the Economic and Social Council to strengthen coordination for the integrated implementation of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the 1990s, where poverty eradication had been a cross-cutting theme;

11. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts made within the United Nations system to enhance inter-agency coordination among relevant organizations, funds and programmes, and the Bretton Woods institutions, for the integrated follow-up to the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the adoption of the Statement of Commitment on Coordination for Action to Eradicate Poverty by the Administrative Committee on Coordination, and encourages these agencies to take more effective action in support of Member States in their efforts to achieve the objectives of the Decade;

12. *Reiterates* its call to all donors to give high priority to the eradication of poverty in their development assistance programmes, on both bilateral and multilateral bases, and invites the relevant funds, programmes and agencies of the United Nations system to support developing countries, particularly African countries and the least developed countries, in their efforts to achieve the overall goal of eradicating poverty, by supporting national efforts to formulate, coordinate, implement, monitor and assess integrated poverty strategies;

13. *Decides* that the themes for the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty for 1999 and 2000 shall be "Globalization and poverty eradication" and "Women's role in poverty eradication", respectively;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to it at its fifty-fourth session on the progress made in the implementation of measures, recommendations and activities related to the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty, including recommendations for possible actions and initiatives towards the new millennium;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fourth session an item entitled "Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006)".

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General Assembly

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Fifty-third session
Second Committee
Agenda item 91 (b)
Macroeconomic policy questions: financing of development, including net transfer of resources between developing and developed countries

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman of the Committee

High-level international intergovernmental consideration of financing for development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 52/179 of 18 December 1997,

Taking note of the views expressed by Governments, including those reflected in the notes by the Secretary-General of 24 March 1998[1] and 8 October 1998,[2] on the key elements that might be included in consideration of financing for development,

1. *Recalls* its decision in resolution 52/179 to establish an ad hoc open-ended working group of the General Assembly to undertake an in-depth examination of all inputs requested in the resolution, with a view to formulating a report containing recommendations on the form, scope and agenda of, *inter alia*, a summit, an international conference, a special session of the General Assembly or other appropriate high-level international intergovernmental forum on financing for development to further global partnership for development, to be convened not later than the year 2001;

2. *Requests* the ad hoc working group to consider appropriate modalities that will ensure the completion of its work and submission of specific recommendations to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session;

3. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly at its fifty-third session to serve as ex officio chairman of the ad hoc working group and to convene an organizational meeting of the ad hoc working group not later than January 1999 to decide on the modalities referred to in paragraph 2 of the present resolution and to develop arrangements for the effective direction and functioning of the ad hoc working group;

[1] A/52/840.
[2] A/53/470.

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4. *Also requests* the President of the General Assembly at its fifty-third session, in close consultations with Member States, to designate two vice-chairpersons for the ad hoc working group, preferably before the convening of its organizational meeting in January 1999, bearing in mind appropriate representation;

5. *Requests* the Bureau of the Second Committee at the fifty-third session of the General Assembly, with the assistance of the Secretariat, to organize briefings or panel discussions on important topics or significant trends and events that may enrich the deliberations of the ad hoc working group;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fourth session, under the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions", a sub-item entitled "High-level international intergovernmental consideration of financing for development".

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Fifty-third session
Second Committee
Agenda item 94 (d)
Environment and sustainable development:
Convention on Biological Diversity

Indonesia*: draft resolution

Convention on Biological Diversity

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 52/201 of 18 December 1997 on the Convention on Biological Diversity and other relevant resolutions relating to the Convention,

Recalling also the provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity,[1]

Recalling further Agenda 21,[2] particularly its chapter 15 on the Convention on Biological Diversity and related chapters,

Having considered the report of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity,[3]

Deeply concerned by the continued loss of world's biological diversity and recognizing the contribution of indigenous and local communities in the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources,

Noting with concern the lack of progress in the negotiation process to reconcile the relevant articles of the Convention and the Agreement on Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights with the issue of equitable sharing of benefits from the use of biological resources, as contained in the Convention,

Encouraged by the work carried out to date under the Convention,

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] See United Nations Environment Programme, *Convention on Biological Diversity* (Environmental Law and Institution Programme Activity Centre), June 1992.

[2] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[3] A/53/451, annex.

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Noting with satisfaction that most States have ratified or acceded to the Convention,

Taking note with appreciation of the generous offer of the Government of Colombia to host the sixth meeting of the Open-ended Ad Hoc Working Group on Biosafety and the extraordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties which will take place in Cartagena de Indias, 15–19 and 22–23 February 1999, respectively,

Recalling its invitation to the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity to report to the General Assembly on the result of future meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention,

Noting the utility of organizing regular timely briefings by the Bureau of the Second Committee on the various issues pertaining to the subject of biological diversity,

1. *Welcomes* the results of the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, held in Bratislava from 4 to 16 May 1998, as reflected in the report of the meeting,[4] submitted in accordance with General Assembly resolution 51/182 of 16 December 1996, and in that context, reaffirms the need to take concrete action to fulfil the objectives contained in article 1 of the Convention on Biological Diversity;

2. *Takes note* of the decision of the fourth Conference of the Parties on the programme of work and the thematic approach adopted to guide its work in the development of the Convention for the foreseeable future;

3. *Expresses grave concern* at the evolution of technologies such as terminator technologies which would adversely affect farmers and local communities in developing countries;

4. *Expresses also deep concern* at the granting of proprietary patents before the prior informed consent of developing countries has been obtained and before mutually beneficial arrangements have been made on flow-back benefits and resources to the developing countries concerned which are the storehouses of biodiversity and traditional knowledge;

5. *Recognizes* the important role that indigenous and local communities play in the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the use of traditional knowledge, as contained in the relevant articles of the Convention, and in this regard, calls on the secretariats of the Convention and the World Trade Organization to undertake the necessary consultations with member countries of the Convention and the World Trade Organization with a view to addressing properly the relationship between the relevant articles of the Agreement on Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights and the Convention;

6. *Encourages* those States that have not yet ratified the Convention to do so as soon as possible;

7. *Invites* all funding institutions, bilateral and multilateral donors, regional funding institutions and non-governmental organizations to cooperate with the secretariat of the Convention in the implementation of the programme of work;

8. *Calls upon* States parties to the Convention urgently to settle any arrears and pay their contributions in full and in a timely manner so as to ensure continuity in the cash flows required to finance ongoing work of the Conference of the Parties, the subsidiary bodies and the Convention secretariat;

[4] UNEP/CDB/COP/4/27.

9. *Invites* the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity to report to the General Assembly on the results of future meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and on the outcome of the consultations carried out with other relevant institutions;

10. *Requests* the Bureau of the Second Committee, in coordination with the Secretariat, to continue organizing regular timely briefings on the various issues pertinent to biological diversity;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fourth session the sub-item entitled "Convention on Biological Diversity".

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General Assembly

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Fifty-third session
Second Committee
Agenda item 94
Environment and sustainable development

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. David Prendergast (Jamaica), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.11 and Corr.1

International cooperation to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of its resolution 52/200 of 18 December 1997 on international cooperation to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon,[1]

Expressing its deepest concern about the widespread and devastating effects of the El Niño Southern Oscillation on most of the regions of the world, especially during the year 1997/1998, which scientists have recognized as the year in which the El Niño Southern Oscillation has had its strongest manifestation on record,

Noting the progress made in the understanding of the El Niño Southern Oscillation, and noting further that a continued increase in the collection and exchange of data and information could assist in the modelling and prediction of the recurrence of this natural phenomenon,

Noting also that an opposite phenomenon to the El Niño Southern Oscillation, known as La Niña, according to scientific predictions, can occur and affect several regions of the world, and that international cooperation could be needed in order to reduce its impact,

Stressing that any credible strategy for the reduction of the natural disaster effects of future El Niño occurrences must be based on effective dialogue and cooperation between the scientific and technological areas of the United Nations system and its operational responsibilities in the fields of disaster management, humanitarian assistance, sustainable

[1] A/53/487.

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development, technical cooperation and capacity-building, including data collection, monitoring and early warning systems, at all levels,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 52/200 and endorses the recommendations and conclusions contained therein;[1]

2. *Expresses its appreciation* for the cooperation provided by the United Nations system to the efforts of the countries affected to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon and for the valuable cooperation given by the international community;

3. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the outcome of the International Conference on Early Warning Systems for the Reduction of Natural Disasters, convened within the framework of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction at Potsdam, Germany, from 7 to 11 September 1998;

4. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the organization of the first Intergovernmental Meeting of Experts on El Niño, to be held at Guayaquil, Ecuador, from 9 to 13 November 1998, in accordance with paragraph 10 of resolution 52/200;

5. *Decides* that the report on the outcome of that Meeting will be considered under appropriate items at the seventh session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, at the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council of 1999 and at the special session of the General Assembly for the review and appraisal of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;[2]

6. *Also decides* to consider the La Niña phenomenon in the context of the implementation of resolution 52/200;

7. *Calls for* the continued and full implementation of resolution 52/200;

8. *Welcomes* the convening, in 1999, of an intergovernmental meeting of experts on the El Niño phenomenon, to be held at Lima, which will have a comprehensive approach, comprising scientific, technical, social and political issues, and a broad participation of intergovernmental experts and policy decision makers;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Administrative Committee on Coordination, to submit recommendations to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1999, on how the United Nations system will deal with natural disaster reduction after the conclusion of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction in 1999, taking into account the lessons learned and making early warning a key element for future natural disaster reduction strategies;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session, through the Economic and Social Council, under the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development", a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[2] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

United Nations A/C.2/53/L.31

General Assembly

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Fifty-third session
Second Committee
Agenda item 93 (c)
Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)

Indonesia*: draft resolution

Revitalization of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)

The General Assembly,

Recalling paragraph 229 of the Habitat Agenda, adopted by the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II),[1] in which it was stated that the functions of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) would need to be assessed with a view to its revitalization,

Recalling its resolutions 51/177 of 16 December 1996 and 52/190 of 18 December 1997, in which it requested the Secretary-General to undertake, in the light of the review of the mandate of the Commission on Human Settlements, a comprehensive and in-depth assessment of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) with a view to its revitalization,

Bearing in mind the objectives, functions and responsibilities given to the Commission on Human Settlements by the Conference, as set out in paragraphs 222 to 227 of the Habitat Agenda, and by the General Assembly in its resolution 52/192, and the functions and responsibilities given to the Centre by the Conference, as set out in paragraphs 228 and 229 of the Habitat Agenda,

Bearing in mind paragraph 7 of Commission on Human Settlements resolution 14/19 of 5 May 1993, in which the Commission strongly recommended that the United Nations

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3-14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

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Environment Programme and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) be kept under distinct senior management in accordance with the specific nature and activities of the two bodies,[2]

Bearing in mind also paragraph 3 (c) of section I of its resolution 47/212 B, in which it requested the Secretary-General to reconsider his proposal to abolish the post of Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) in view of the recommendations of the Commission on Human Settlements, the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme and the Economic and Social Council and the views expressed by Member States,

Recalling paragraph 4 of its resolution 48/176, in which it requested the Secretary-General to give full consideration to the views expressed by Member States regarding the high-level leadership of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) through distinct and separate management and direction as contemplated in General Assembly resolution 32/162 of 19 December 1977,

Recalling also paragraph 29 of its resolution 48/228 of 23 December 1993, in which it reiterated its request in section I, paragraph 3 (c), of its resolution 47/212 B and stressed the need for the Secretary-General to implement fully and promptly the decisions of the General Assembly contained therein,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the assessment of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat),[3]

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the assessment of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat);

2. *Endorses* the recommendations on the management of the Centre, as contained in paragraphs 15 to 17 of the report of the Secretary-General;

3. *Welcomes* the establishment and the terms of reference of the team of experts for the revitalization of the Centre, as indicated in paragraphs 18 to 20 of the report of the Secretary-General, and requests the Secretary-General to submit the recommendations of the team of experts and the views of Member States to the Commission on Human Settlements at its seventeenth session for action, as appropriate;

4. *Reaffirms* the need to keep the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) under separate and distinct management and direction, as requested by the Commission on Human Settlements in paragraph 7 of its resolution 14/19 and by the General Assembly in paragraph 4 of its resolution 48/176, paragraph 3 (c) of section I of its resolution 47/212 B and paragraph 29 of its resolution 48/228, and as was contemplated by the General Assembly in its resolution 32/162;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[2] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 8* (A/48/8), annex I, sect. A.

[3] A/53/512.

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General Assembly

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Fifty-third session
Second Committee
Agenda item 96 (b)
Training and research: United Nations Institute for Training and Research

Republic of Indonesia*: draft resolution

United Nations Institute for Training and Research

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 47/227 of 8 April 1993, 48/207 of 21 December 1993, 49/125 of 19 December 1994, 50/121 of 20 December 1995, 51/188 of 16 December 1996 and 52/206 of 18 December 1997,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[1] and the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research on the activities of the Institute,[2]

Welcoming the successful restructuring of the Institute and the recent progress made by the Institute in its various programmes and activities, including the improved cooperation that has been established with other organizations of the United Nations system and with regional and national institutions,

Underlining the need for all the United Nations training and research institutions to avoid duplication in their work,

Expressing its appreciation to the Governments and private institutions that have made or pledged financial and other contributions to the Institute,

Noting that in certain cases contributions to the General Fund have not been commensurate with the increased participation of the developed countries in the training programmes, and underlining the need to urgently address this discrepancy,

Reiterating that the funding of training programmes offered at the specific request of States or departments and units of the Organization and other organs of the United Nations system and the specialized agencies should be arranged by the requesting parties,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] A/53/534.

[2] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 14* (A/53/14).

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Recognizing that training activities should be accorded a more visible and larger role in support of the management of international affairs and in the execution of the economic and social development programmes of the United Nations system,

1. *Notes* the report of the Secretary-General and the Executive Director;

2. *Reaffirms* the relevance of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research in view of the growing importance of training within the United Nations and the training requirements of States, and the pertinence of research activities related to training undertaken by the Institute within its mandate;

3. *Stresses* the need for the Institute to further strengthen its cooperation with other United Nations institutes and relevant national, regional and international institutes;

4. *Further stresses* the need for continuity in the management of the Institute in order to ensure efficient and effective completion of the process of restructuring and revitalization;

5. *Renews its appeal* to all Governments and to private institutions that have not yet contributed financially or otherwise to the Institute to give it their generous financial and other support, and urges the States that interrupted their voluntary contributions to consider resuming them in the light of the successful restructuring and revitalization of the Institute and increased participation in the training programmes;

6. *Stresses* the need for better coordination among the main training and research institutions of the United Nations system, and in this context notes the survey prepared by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research;

7. *Requests* the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, in this regard, to prepare an assessment of the survey with a view to (a) highlighting the lessons learned from the responses already received, (b) providing a qualitative assessment of pedagogical methods followed by these institutions in the provision of their training services, and (c) highlighting the complementarities and synergies that were apparent in the survey;

8. *Welcomes* the progress made in building partnerships between the Institute and other agencies and bodies of the United Nations system with respect to their training programmes, especially for developing countries, consistent with the division of labour;

9. *Underlines* the need to further develop and expand the scope of these partnerships, particularly at the country level;

10. *Requests* the Board of Trustees to attract, to the extent possible, experts from developing countries for the preparation of the relevant training materials for the programmes and activities of the Institute;

11. *Calls on* the Secretary-General to continue to explore all possible ways and means to provide additional facilities to the Institute for maintaining its offices and for conducting programmes and training courses that are provided at no cost to States, and to their representatives accredited to United Nations offices in New York and at Nairobi, Geneva and Vienna;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Institute, as well as with the United Nations funds and programmes, to continue to explore ways and modalities to systematically utilize the Institute in the execution of training and capacity-building programmes;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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Fifty-third session
Second Committee
Agenda item 93 (f)
Sustainable development and international economic cooperation

Indonesia* and Austria: draft resolution**

Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 49/128 of 19 December 1994, 50/124 of 20 December 1995, 51/176 of 16 December 1996, and 52/188 of 18 December 1997 on the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[1]

Also recalling that in operative paragraph 2 of its resolution 52/188, the General Assembly decided to convene a special session for a duration of three days from 30 June to 2 July 1999, at the highest possible level of participation, in order to review and appraise the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,

Further recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1998/8 of 23 July 1998 on the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the preparations for the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[2]

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the preparations for the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

** On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union.

[1] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[2] A/53/407.

98-34106 (E) 061198

appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development;[2]

2. *Reaffirms* that the special session will be undertaken on the basis of and with full respect for the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, and that there will be no renegotiations of the existing agreements contained therein;

3. *Stresses* the need for the effective participation of actors of civil society, particularly non-governmental organizations, in preparation for the special session, as well as the need to ensure appropriate arrangements, in accordance to the practice and experience gained at the International Conference on Population and Development, for their substantive contributions to and active involvement in the preparatory meetings and the special session, and invites the President of the General Assembly, in consultation with Member States, to propose to Member States appropriate modalities for their effective involvement in the special session;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek extrabudgetary resources to assist developing countries, particularly least developed countries, in sending representatives to the thirty-second session of the Commission on Population and Development, which is to serve as the preparatory meeting for the special session of the General Assembly, and to the special session itself;

5. *Decides* to invite States members of the specialized agencies that are not members of the United Nations to participate in the work of the special session in the capacity of observers;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session a report on the special session;

7. *Decides* to include an item entitled "Implementation of the International Conference on Population and Development" in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fourth session.

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General Assembly

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Fifty-third session
Second Committee
Agenda item 91 (a)
Macroeconomic policy questions: trade and development

Afghanistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Tajikistan, Turkey, Ukraine and Uzbekistan: draft resolution

Transit environment in the landlocked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/169 and 48/170 of 21 December 1993, 49/102 of 19 December 1994 and 51/168 of 16 December 1996,

Also recalling the Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation between Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and the Donor Community,[1]

Recognizing that the overall socio-economic development efforts of the landlocked States in Central Asia, seeking to enter world markets through the establishment of a multi-country transit system, are impeded by a lack of territorial access to the sea as well as by remoteness and isolation from world markets and lack of adequate infrastructure in the transport sector in transit developing neighbours due to their economic problems,

Reaffirming that transit countries, in the exercise of their full sovereignty over their territory, have the right to take all measures to ensure that the rights and facilities provided for landlocked countries in no way infringe upon their legitimate interests,

Supporting the current efforts being undertaken by the newly independent and developing landlocked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours through relevant multilateral, bilateral and regional arrangements to address issues regarding the development of a viable transit infrastructure in the region,

Taking note of the report prepared by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on the transit environment in the landlocked States of Central Asia and their

[1] TD/B/42(1)/11, annex I.

98-34185 (E) 061198

transit neighbours,[2] and considering that the problems of transit transport facing the Central Asian region need to be seen against the backdrop of economic changes and accompanying challenges, including especially the impact of those changes on the international and intraregional trade of the countries concerned,

Recognizing that, to be effective, a transit transport strategy for the newly independent and developing landlocked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours should incorporate actions that address both the problems inherited in the use of existing transit routes and those associated with the development and smooth functioning of new, alternative routes,

Noting that there have been a number of important developments at the subregional and regional levels, including the signing of a transit transport framework agreement among member States of the Economic Cooperation Organization at Almaty, Kazakhstan, on 9 May 1998, the signing by the heads of State of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, the Economic Commission for Europe and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific of the Tashkent Declaration of 26 March 1998 on the United Nations special programme for the economies of Central Asia,[3] the implementation of the expanded Transport Corridor-Europe-Caucasus-Asia programme and the signing of the Baku Declaration of 8 September 1998,[4]

Emphasizing once again the importance of strengthening international support measures to address further the problems of the newly independent and developing landlocked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the contribution of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to improving the efficiency of the transit transport system in the landlocked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours;

2. *Invites* the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the Governments concerned, in cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Economic Commission for Europe and relevant regional and international organizations, and in accordance with approved programme priorities and within existing financial resources, to continue elaborating a programme for improving the efficiency of the current transit environment in the newly independent and developing landlocked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours;

3. *Also invites* the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in close cooperation with the regional commissions and relevant international organizations, to provide technical assistance and advisory services, within the Conference's current mandate and resources, to the newly independent landlocked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours taking into account the relevant transit transport agreements;

4. *Invites* donor countries and multilateral financial and development institutions, within their mandates, to continue to provide the newly independent and developing landlocked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours with appropriate financial and technical assistance for the improvement of the transit environment, including construction, maintenance and improvement of their transport, storage and other transit-related facilities and improved communications;

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[2] A/53/331, annex.

[3] A/53/96, annex II.

[4] A/C.2/53/4, annex.

5. *Calls upon* the United Nations system to continue studying, within the scope of the implementation of the present resolution, possible ways of promoting more cooperative arrangements between landlocked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours, and to encourage a more active supportive role on the part of the donor community;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in close cooperation with the regional commissions, to prepare a report on the implementation of the present resolution, to be submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session.

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Fifty-third session
Second Committee
Agenda item 91 (a)
Macroeconomic policy questions: trade and development

Afghanistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, Georgia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan: revised draft resolution

Transit environment in the landlocked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/169 and 48/170 of 21 December 1993, 49/102 of 19 December 1994 and 51/168 of 16 December 1996,

Also recalling the Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation between Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and the Donor Community[1] and other relevant international legal instruments,

Recognizing that the overall socio-economic development efforts of the landlocked States in Central Asia, seeking to enter world markets through the establishment of a multi-country transit system, are impeded by a lack of territorial access to the sea as well as by remoteness and isolation from world markets and lack of adequate infrastructure in the transport sector in transit developing neighbours due to their economic problems,

Reaffirming that transit countries, in the exercise of their full sovereignty over their territory, have the right to take all measures necessary to ensure that the rights and facilities provided for landlocked countries in no way infringe upon their legitimate interests,

Supporting the current efforts being undertaken by the newly independent and developing landlocked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours through relevant multilateral, bilateral and regional arrangements to address issues regarding the development of a viable transit infrastructure in the region,

[1] TD/B/42(1)/11, annex I.

98-36963 (E) 241198

Taking note of the progress report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on the transit environment in the landlocked States of Central Asia and their transit neighbours,[2] and considering that the problems of transit transport facing the Central Asian region need to be seen against the backdrop of economic changes and accompanying challenges, including especially the impact of those changes on the international and intraregional trade of the countries concerned,

Recognizing that, to be effective, a transit transport strategy for the newly independent and developing landlocked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours should incorporate actions that address both the problems inherent in the use of existing transit routes and those associated with the early development and smooth functioning of new, alternative routes, and welcoming, in this context, further cooperation of landlocked States with all interested countries,

Noting that there have been a number of important developments at the subregional and regional levels, including the signing of a transit transport framework agreement among member States of the Economic Cooperation Organization at Almaty, Kazakhstan, on 9 May 1998, the signing by the heads of State of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, the Economic Commission for Europe and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific of the Tashkent Declaration of 26 March 1998 on the United Nations special programme for the economies of Central Asia,[3] the implementation of the expanded Transport Corridor-Europe-Caucasus-Asia programme and the signing of the Baku Declaration of 8 September 1998,[4]

Emphasizing once again the importance of strengthening international support measures to address further the problems of the newly independent and developing landlocked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the contribution of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to improving the efficiency of the transit transport system in the landlocked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours;

2. *Invites* the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the Governments concerned, in cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Economic Commission for Europe and relevant regional and international organizations, and in accordance with approved programme priorities and within existing financial resources, to continue elaborating a programme for improving the efficiency of the current transit environment in the newly independent and developing landlocked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours;

3. *Also invites* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in close cooperation with the regional economic commissions, within their respective mandates and current resources, as well as with other relevant international organizations, to provide technical assistance and advisory services to the newly independent landlocked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours, taking into account the relevant transit transport agreements;

4. *Invites* donor countries and multilateral financial and development institutions, within their mandates, to continue to provide the newly independent and developing landlocked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours with appropriate

[2] A/53/331, annex.

[3] A/53/96, annex II.

[4] A/C.2/53/4, annex.

financial and technical assistance for the improvement of the transit environment, including construction, maintenance and improvement of their transport, storage and other transit-related facilities and improved communications;

5. *Calls upon* the United Nations system to continue studying, within the scope of the implementation of the present resolution, possible ways of promoting more cooperative arrangements between landlocked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours, and to encourage a more active supportive role on the part of the donor community;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in close cooperation with the regional economic commissions, to prepare a report on the implementation of the present resolution, to be submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session.

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General Assembly

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Fifty-third session
Second Committee
Agenda item 93 (g)
Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: cultural development

Indonesia*: draft resolution

Cultural development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 41/87 of 8 December 1986, 46/158 of 19 December 1991, 51/79 of 16 December 1996 and 52/197 of 18 December 1997 on cultural development,

Taking note of the fact that public opinion throughout the world as well as Governments and non-governmental organizations have become much more sensitive to the need for better integration of the cultural dimension into the entire development process, as a result of the World Decade for Cultural Development[1] and the work of the World Commission on Culture and Development,

Acknowledging with satisfaction the active participation of Member States, United Nations bodies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and individuals in the implementation of projects of national, regional and interregional scope aiming at the promotion of the objectives of the Decade and its follow-up, and in the work of the World Commission,

Taking note of the convening of the Intergovernmental Conference on Cultural Policies for Development, held in Stockholm, Sweden, from 30 March to 2 April 1998,

1. *Takes note* of the note by the Secretary-General on cultural development;[2]

2. *Invites* all Member States, intergovernmental bodies and organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations:

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China

[1] See resolution 41/187

[2] See A/53/321

98-34460 (E) 101198

(a) To implement the recommendations of the Action Plan on Cultural Policies for Development adopted by the Stockholm Conference;

(b) To cooperate with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization for the purpose of ensuring effective follow-up to the Action Plan;

(c) To intensify their efforts to integrate cultural factors into their development programmes and projects, so as to ensure sustainable development that fully respects cultural diversity, taking into account their cultural values and identity;

3. *Encourages* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to pursue its ongoing task of promoting throughout the United Nations system a greater awareness of the crucial relationship between culture and development, taking into account the diversity of cultures and the need to apply the recommendations of the Stockholm conference;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session.

United Nations A/C.2/53/L.36

General Assembly

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Fifty-third session
Second Committee
Agenda item 93 (d)
Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership

Indonesia*: draft resolution

Renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/165 of 21 December 1993, 49/95 of 19 December 1994, 50/122 of 20 December 1995, 51/174 of 16 December 1996, and 52/186 of 18 December 1997,

Noting the adoption of the Agenda for Development[1] and the relevant provision on its follow-up and implementation, and the need to give impetus to international economic cooperation for development so as to effectively follow up on the Agenda,

Expressing satisfaction on the holding of the first high-level dialogue on the theme of social and economic impacts of globalization and interdependence and their policy implications, held on 17 and 18 September 1998,

1. *Reaffirms* the continued need to strengthen constructive dialogue and genuine partnership in order to promote further international economic cooperation for development;

2. *Also reaffirms* that such a dialogue should be conducted in response to the imperatives of mutual interests and benefits, genuine interdependence, shared responsibility and the partnership for achieving sustained economic growth and sustainable development as well as for improving the international economic environment that is conducive to such development, and that the United Nations system should reinforce its activities in order to facilitate such a dialogue;

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.
[1] Resolution 51/240.

98-34466 (E) 101198

3. *Decides* to hold biennially a high-level renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership of the General Assembly to provide impetus for the promotion of international economic cooperation for development and also decides that the theme, timing, duration, outcome and the modalities of the second high-level dialogue will be decided through the intergovernmental process at the fifty-fourth session of the General Assembly;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in close consultations with Governments, all relevant parts of the United Nations system and relevant intergovernmental organizations, to propose themes for the promotion of international economic cooperation for development for the second high-level dialogue for consideration by the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fourth session under the appropriate item, the sub-item entitled "Renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership".

United Nations A/C.2/53/L.37

General Assembly

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Fifty-third session
Second Committee
Agenda item 12
Report of the Economic and Social Council

Russian Federation: draft resolution

Proclamation of international years

The General Assembly,

Recalling its decision 35/424 of 5 December 1980 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 and 1998/1 of 6 February 1998,

Recalling also its resolution 50/227 of 24 May 1996, in which, *inter alia*, it stressed[1] that the primary function of the general segment should be an action-oriented review of the activities, reports and recommendations of the Council's subsidiary bodies, and that the Council should regularly review the agenda of its general segment with a view to discontinuing consideration of items not relevant to the work of its subsidiary machinery or duplicative of items on the agenda of the General Assembly,

Reaffirming the importance of the guidelines for international years and anniversaries, adopted by the General Assembly in its decision 35/424 for the consideration of proposals for the proclamation of international years,

Recognizing the need to provide for effective arrangements for the proclamation of international years,

Decides that, starting from the year 1999, proposals for the proclamation of international years should be submitted directly to the Assembly for consideration and action, unless the Assembly decides to bring them to the attention of the Council for evaluation, in accordance with the provisions of the above-mentioned guidelines.

[1] Annex I, paras. 66 and 67.

98-34538 (E) 101198

United Nations A/C.2/53/L.38

General Assembly

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10 November 1998

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Fifty-third session
Second Committee
Agenda item 12
Report of the Economic and Social Council

Indonesia*: draft resolution

Proclamation of the year 2002 as the International Year of Ecotourism

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming Economic and Social Council resolution 1998/40 of 30 July 1998,

Proclaims the year 2002 as the International Year of Ecotourism.

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

98-34544 (E) 101198

United Nations A/C.2/53/L.39

General Assembly

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11 November 1998

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Fifty-third session
Second Committee
Agenda item 12
Report of the Economic and Social Council

Côte d'Ivoire, Morocco, Papua New Guinea and Russian Federation: draft resolution

Public administration and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 50/225 of 19 April 1996 on public administration and development,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/225;[1]

2. *Endorses* Economic and Social Council decision 1998/220 of 23 July 1998, in which the Council requested the Secretary-General to conduct a five-year assessment of the progress made in the implementation of Assembly resolution 50/225, and to report his findings to the Assembly through the Council in the year 2001.

[1] A/53/173-E/1998/87

98-34700 (E) 121198